THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 17th May 1954.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker, (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

MR. SPEAKER :—" We will take up questions Nos. 968 and 969 together, because they relate to the same subject."

Short notice questions.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Escort for the French Indian Police.

* 968 *Q*.—SRI S. RAMALINGAM (on behalf of Sri P. K. Gopalakrishnan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether our State Police escorted the French Police from ' Naluthara ' and other French enclaves near Mahe to Mahe with all their arms and ammunitions; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons for such escort?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) It is not correct to say that our State Police escorted the French Police from ' Naluthara ' and other French enclaves near Mahe to Mahe. At the instance of Government of India to whom a request had been made by the French authorities, the French policemen were permitted to cross Indian Union territory during their withdrawal from the enclave to Mahe. Police bandobust was however provided by our policemen during the passage of the French Police through Indian Union Territory in order to guard against any possible breach of law and order."

* 969 *Q*.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether this Government had, on a request from French India Government a few days back, agreed to give escort for the safe transit of the French Indian policemen with their arms and ammunition from the enclaves of Mahe through Indian territory?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No request was made by the French Indian Government to this Government for an escort for the safe transit of the French Indian policemen with their arms and ammunition from the enclaves of Mahe through Indian territory. The attention of the Member is invited to the answer given to Short Notice Starred question No. 968 given notice of by Sri P. K. Gopalakrishnan, M.L.A."